



United States Department of Agriculture
Risk Management Agency

Nov 2005

2006 FACT SHEET

Risk Management Writing Contest

Risk Management

Managing Risks may not be the normal subject one would hear when walking down the hallway of a typical high school corridor. However, it is a topic that many Agricultural Education students must face if they decide to pursue a career in agriculture.

Writing Contest

The **United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Risk Management Agency (RMA)** will be again, sponsoring a *Risk Management Strategies for Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Program* writing contest for **FFA** members. The writing contest provides students an opportunity to learn about agricultural risks and apply risk management tools to their program.

Take the Challenge

Just as the '*eagle*' symbol on the **National FFA Emblem** serves as a reminder of our freedom and ability to explore new horizons for the future of agriculture; developing a risk management strategy could create a whole new horizon for your SAE program.

To Enter

FFA students are to select a **risk management strategy** relative to their supervised AG program; analyze the risk; indicate tools used to minimize risk; and explain how these tools can be applied to their AG program. Then complete an essay (no less than 1000 words) on "**Risk Management Strategies for Your SAE,**" and send it to: Risk Management Essay Contest, National FFA Organization, P. O. Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960, **postmarked by January 31, 2006.**

Rules of Entry

1. Entrants must be current FFA members in good standing.
2. All entries:
 - Must be in the form of a **personal essay** on the topic of risk management strategies used in an SAE. Students should analyze the risks involved in the SAE, describe their risk management strategy and indicate which 'tools' were used to minimize risk and how they were applied.
 - * Essays must be **no less than 1,000 words.**
 - * Essays must be typed, double-spaced and on plain white paper.
 - * Essays must be the original work of the student.
 - Must include a **cover page** with the following information:
 - * Entrant's name and current grade.
 - * Home address and telephone number.
 - * FFA chapter name, chapter address, advisor's name and school telephone number.
 - * **Entries with incomplete cover pages will be disqualified.**
 - Must include a **one-page outline** or description of the entrant's SAE.
 - * The outline does not count in the 1,000 word requirement.
 - * **Entries that do not include an outline will be disqualified.**
 - Must include a **bibliography.**
 - * Bibliography must cite at least two references (RMA's Introduction to Risk Management may be used as one of these references.)
 - * **Entries that do not include a bibliography will be disqualified.**

Prize Winners

Ten national winning essays will be selected on the basis of content, adherence to the assigned topic, grammar, organization, originality and creativity. Each of the ten winners and their advisors will travel to Washington, D.C., all expenses paid, for a special U.S. Department of Agriculture Risk Management Agency/FFA Day in April/May 2005. While in Washington, students and advisors will meet with USDA officials and members of Congress and be recognized in a special ceremony. Lodging, transportation, and meal costs will be covered for each student winner and his or her advisor. A list of top ten winners will appear in FFA's *New Horizon's* magazine, *Making a Difference* newsletter and www.ffa.org.

For a RESOURCE GUIDE and CONTEST RULES, watch for the Official Announcement on National FFA Online www.ffa.org

Risk Management Education (RME)

RME focuses on various areas of Agricultural Risk

- * Production Risks
- * Marketing Risks
- * Financial Risks
- * Legal Risks
- * Human Resource Risks
- * Alternative Enterprises

Contest Sponsorship

The National FFA Organization in cooperation with the National Council for Agricultural Education is a co-sponsor. Funding is provided by U.S. Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency as a special project of the National FFA Foundation, Inc.

**For copies of USDA Risk Management Education materials, FFA advisors and members may contact:
Michelle Fuller, RMA's National RME Division at (202) 720-6356.**

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